

REMARKS

Applicants submit corrected drawing sheets 5, 6 and 7 containing Figures 7 through 12. Reference numbers 49 and 54 have been added to Figures 7, 8 and 9. This correction is made to overcome the Examiner's objection that reference number 49 does not appear in the drawings.

The Examiner also objected to the drawings because reference 57, which appears on the last line of page 8 is not in the drawings. Applicants have amended the specification to change 57 and 54. This change overcomes the objection to the use of reference 57.

The sentence beginning at the last line of page 8 now reads "Pins 51 and 54 extend through the locking wheel 41 and capture cams 43." This statement is consistent with the drawings. This statement is true for both the embodiment of Figures 7, 8 and 9 and the embodiment of Figures 10 and 11.

Applicants have also corrected Figure 11 to show multiple wheels 76 and cams 73. Support for this change is in the informal Figure 11 submitted with the application which shows multiple cams 73. It should be noted that the cams in original Figure 11 are inverted making the figure inconsistent with original Figure 10. At page 9, line 17 says "cams 73" clearly indicating that the embodiment contains more than one cam. Corrected Figure 11 is consistent with Figure 10.

In response to the restriction requirement dated December 14, 2004, Applicants elected claims 1-3, 7, 8, 9 and 10. The Examiner chose to consider elected claims 7, 8 and 9 as withdrawn because they are directed to multiple cam locks and the Examiner regarded Figures 10 and 11 as disclosing a single cam lock. But, the identification of item 73 shown in Figures 10

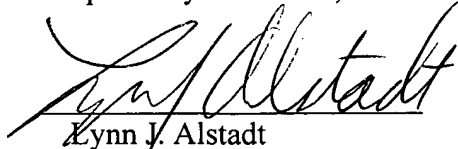
and 11 as "cams" in the specification clearly demonstrates that the elected embodiment contains multiple cams and that claims 7, 8 and 9 should have been examined.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 10 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,036,232 to Hedberg which discloses a single cam cord lock for window blinds. This single cam 6 is shown in an unlocked position in Figure 1 and can be moved to a second unlocked position by pulling release cord 14. There is no teaching or suggestion of using multiple cams in Hedberg. Moreover, even though Hedberg issued nearly a century ago in 1912, the art has not developed a multicam lock for window blinds. Therefore, it would not have been obvious from Hedberg to create a multicam cord lock.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 3 and 10 to recite a plurality of cams rather than a single cam. Because there is no teaching or suggestion of the multiple cam lock of the amended claims, claims 1, 2, 3 and 10 are now allowable.

The claims identified as withdrawn in the listing of claims all depend from claim 1. Since claim 1 is now allowable, rejoinder and allowance of the withdrawn claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Amendment dated June 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action of February 25, 2005

Amendment To The Drawings:

Substitute the attached drawing sheets 5, 6 and 7 for the corresponding sheets currently in the pending application.

A copy of these pages as currently pending are also enclosed with changes marked in red.

Attachment: 3 sheets of formal drawings

Annotated copies of drawings showing changes

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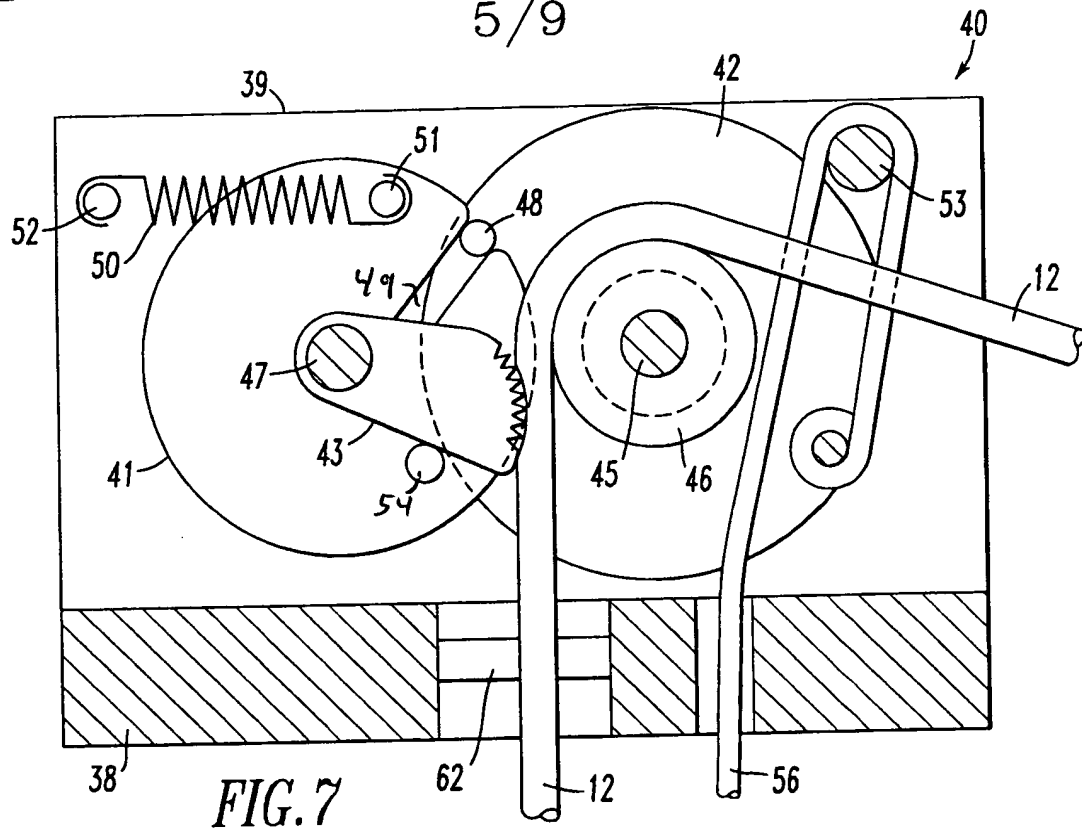


FIG. 7

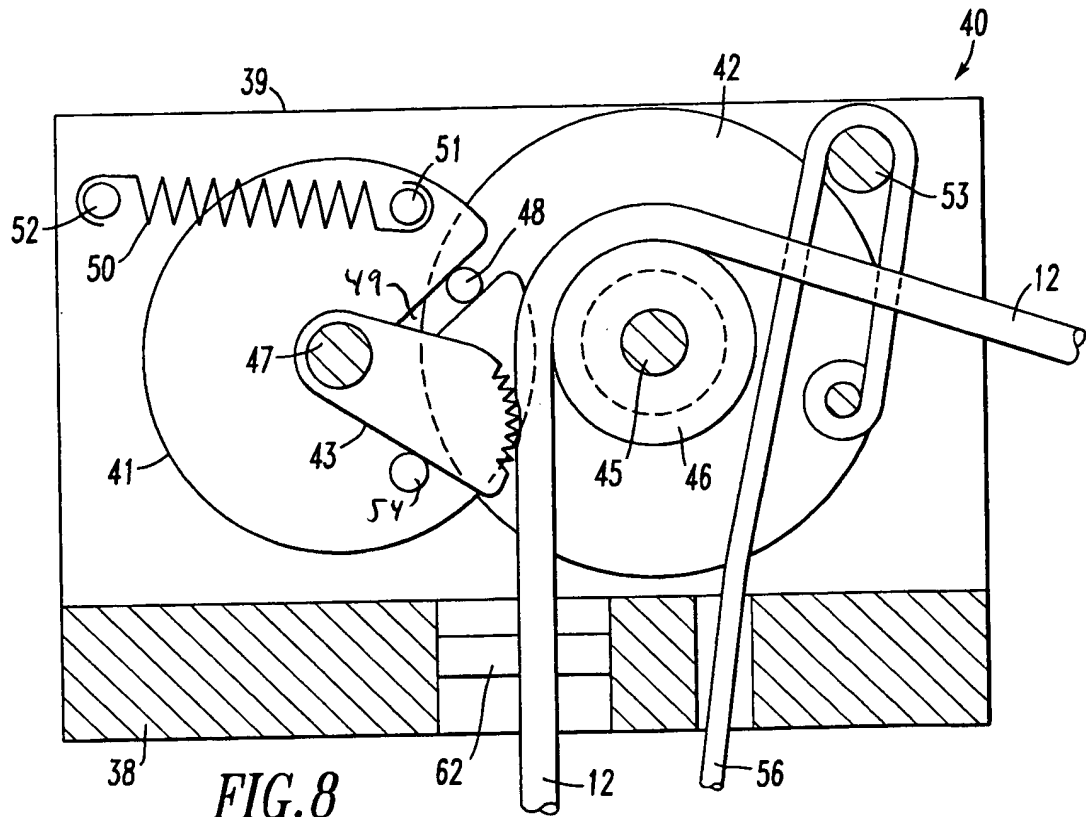
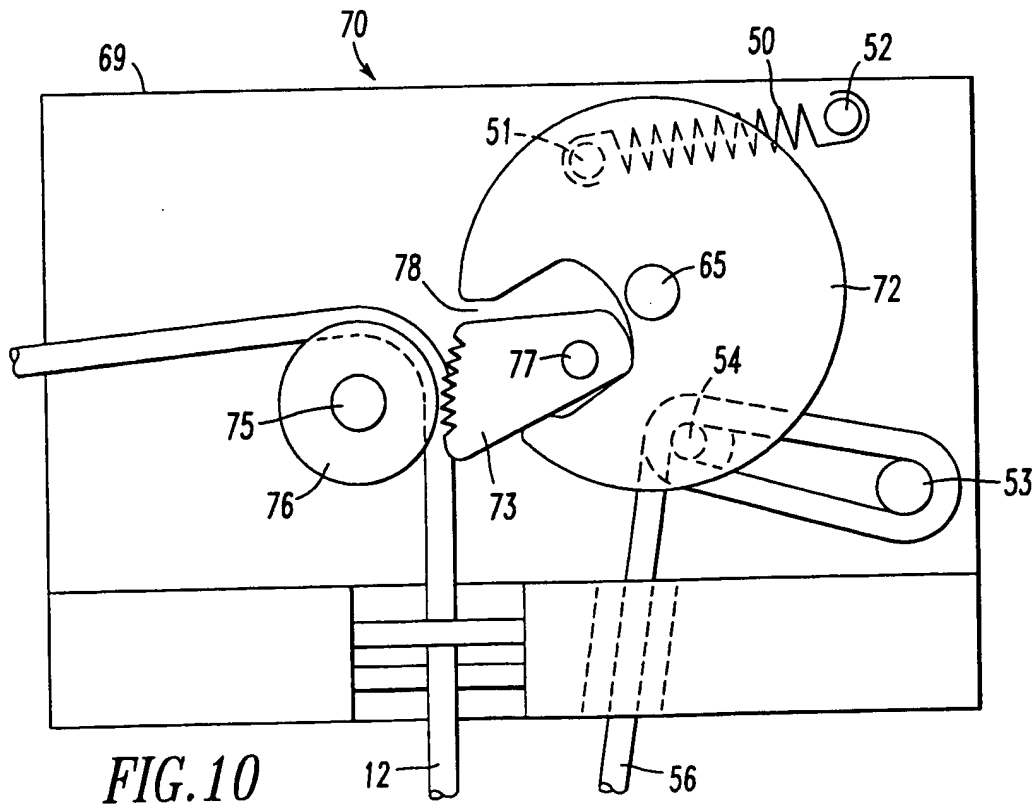
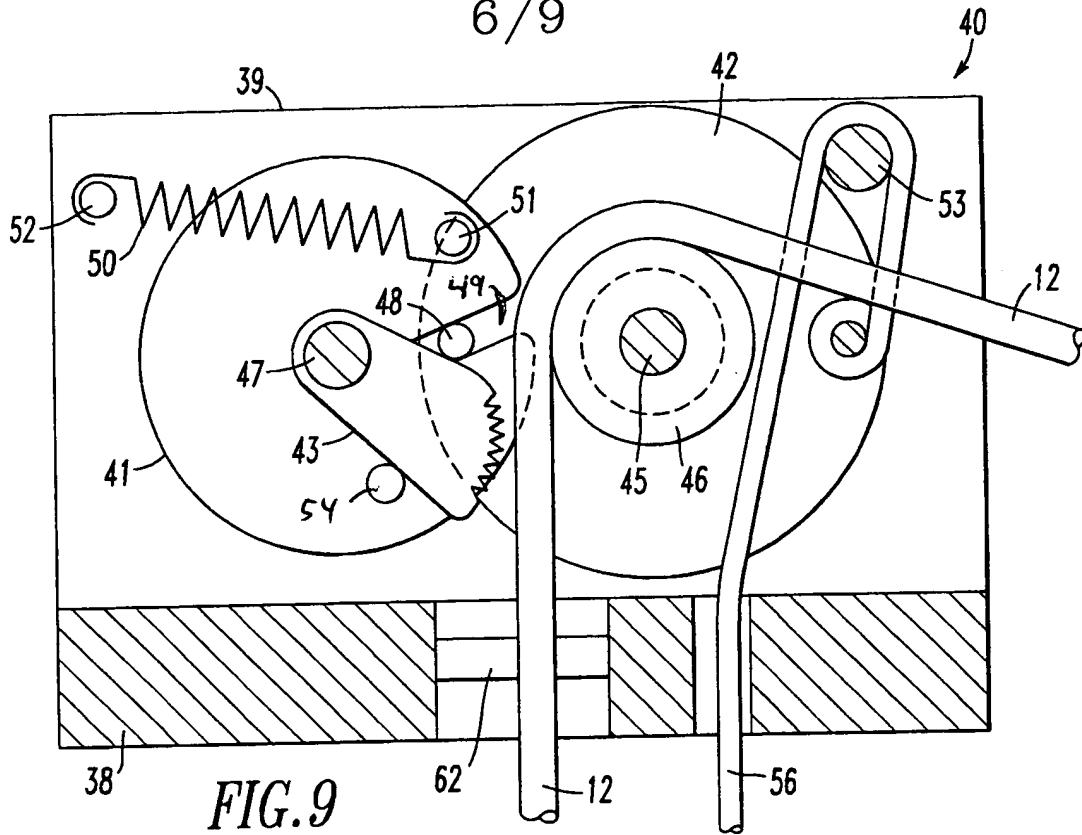


FIG. 8

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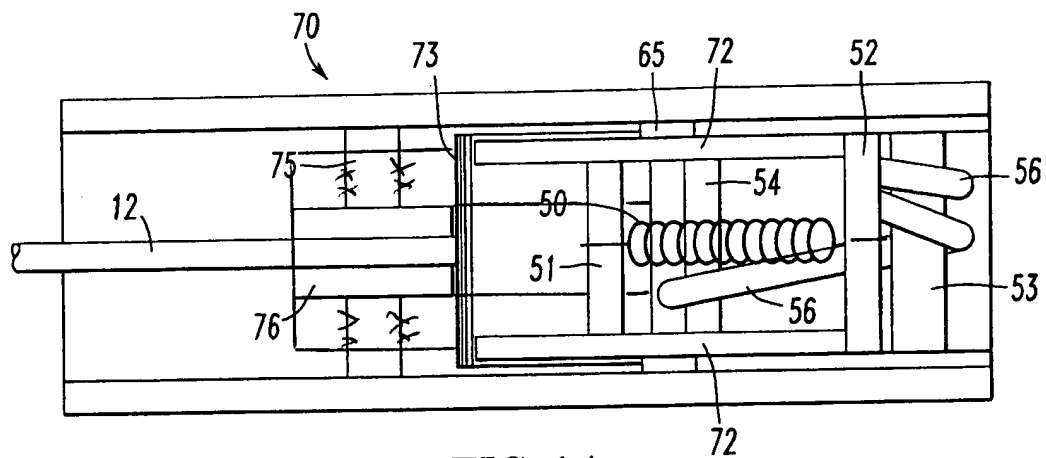


FIG. 11

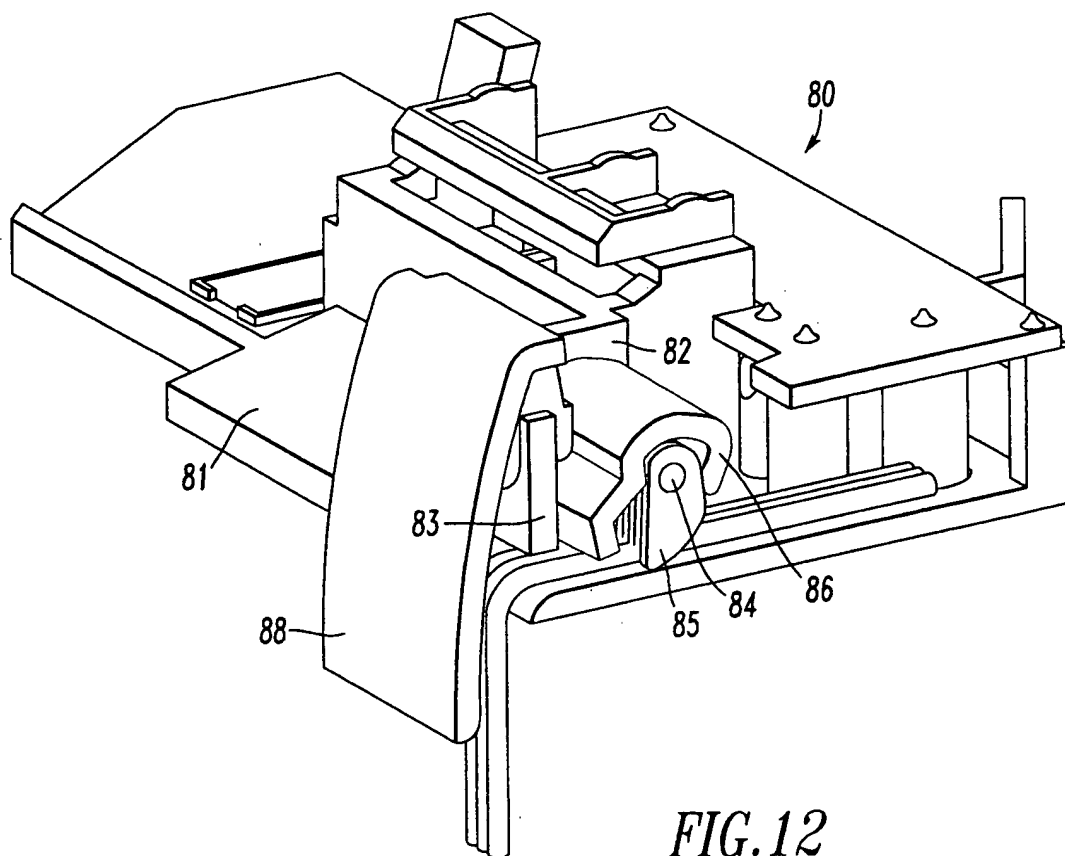


FIG. 12